

pose to the town of Louisburg. He is survived by ten children. He was elected a Fellow of the Society 1864 January 8.

The Rev. THOMAS PERKINS was educated at Blundell's School, Tiverton, and at Christ's College, Cambridge. He took his degree in 1865, when he was bracketed 20th wrangler, Lord Rayleigh being the senior wrangler that year. He was ordained Deacon in 1868 and Priest in the following year by the Bishop of Durham, and after holding mathematical masterships at Durham and Reading Schools he was in 1878 appointed Headmaster of the Shaftesbury Grammar School. In 1893 he was presented by the Bishop of Salisbury to the living of Turnworth, Dorsetshire, which he held until his death on March 21, in the 65th year of his age. He took great interest in architecture, and was the author of *A Handbook to Gothic Architecture* and of several volumes in "Bell's Cathedral Series." At the time of his death he had just completed a book on Romsey Abbey Church, and was engaged in editing, and partly writing, a book to be entitled *Memoirs of Old Dorset*. He was an enthusiastic photographer, and enjoyed a well-earned reputation for the artistic merit of his work.

Mr. Perkins was elected a Fellow of the Society 1885 June 12.

JAMES GEORGE PETRIE was a native of Kirkcaldy, Fifeshire. He came to London at an early age and engaged in financial journalism. He soon made himself highly respected in the City, and for the last sixteen years had been chief of the reporting staff of the *Financial Times*. He was for a time President of the Shorthand Society in London. He was an ardent volunteer, and on coming to London joined the London Scottish; he left that regiment as a non-commissioned officer to take a commission as second lieutenant in the 21st Middlesex, from which he retired quite recently as a major. He received the V.D. for long service, and was one of the most popular officers in the battalion. He was an original member of the British Astronomical Association, served on the Council 1892-1894, and was Secretary from 1894 until his death, which occurred on September 22, after a long illness. He was in his 60th year. He was twice married, and leaves a widow with four children.

Mr. Petrie was elected a Fellow of the Society 1889 May 10.

THOMAS ROBSON was born at Lisburn, Co. Antrim, on 19th June 1868. He served as a pupil teacher at the Spring Grove Board School, Huddersfield, from 1883 to 1887, as assistant master at Rastrick Grammar School from 1887 to 1889, and at the Ulster Provincial School, Lisburn, from 1890 to 1892. In 1893 he took his B.A. degree at London University, and the next year he returned to his previous post at the Ulster Provincial School. Here he remained until 1897, when he again came to London as a student at the Royal College of Science. He passed the intermediate examination for the B.Sc. in 1899, and the next year he was appointed Science

Master at Doncaster Grammar School, a post he held until his death, which occurred on April 5.

He married Eliza Williams, of Randall's Mills, Co. Wexford, in August 1904, but leaves no family.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society 1903 November 13.

EDWARD JOHN ROUTH was born at Quebec in 1831, and was the son of Sir Randolph Isham Routh, K.C.B., Commissary-General to the British Forces from 1826 to his death in 1858, by his second wife Marie Louise, sister of Cardinal Taschereau, Archbishop of Quebec. The boy came to London at the age of 11, and was educated, first at University College School, and later at the College itself, under De Morgan. He matriculated at London University in 1847, and won two scholarships and a gold medal. He went up to Peterhouse, Cambridge, in 1850; was Senior Wrangler in 1854 (Clerk Maxwell being second, and the two being bracketted for the Smith's Prizes); was elected a Fellow of Peterhouse, appointed Lecturer, and ultimately became a most successful private tutor. In 1864 he married Hilda, eldest daughter of Mr. (afterwards Sir) G. B. Airy, Astronomer Royal, and by the statutes of the time he thus vacated his fellowship, but in 1883 he was elected to the first honorary fellowship at Peterhouse. He gave up private tuition in 1888, though he continued to lecture. His health broke down about the beginning of 1907, and on Friday, June 7, he passed peacefully away.

It may not be easy for future generations to understand the position Routh occupied in Cambridge life, or the debt Cambridge owes to him.

There are, roughly speaking, two ways of giving instruction, one by lectures to large audiences, the other by personal interviews with small groups or individuals. The private tutor was called into existence in Cambridge by the failure of the Colleges and of the University to give any teaching beyond lectures, and sometimes very inadequate lectures. The importance of such "coaching" had been rendered manifest by the success of those who were able to pay for it, and it was easy to recognise that some coaches were better than others by comparing the achievements of their pupils. Routh was practically the successor of a great coach, William Hopkins, with whom he had himself read, and who was able in 1849 to say that in twenty-one years he had had among his pupils nearly 200 wranglers, 17 of them senior wranglers. Routh's own success was even greater, for between 1858 and 1888 he had between 600 and 650 pupils, including 27 senior wranglers. In fact, in the twenty-five years 1861-85 he claimed the senior wrangler in every year but one. His success was so great that at one time more than a quarter of the undergraduates studying mathematics were practically learning all their mathematics from him. His pupils were naturally divided into four "years" by their time of entering the University; and each "year" was subdivided into three or four classes, so that he